

Benton Foundation
1250 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036

December 8, 2011

NOTICE OF EX PARTE

Ms. Marlene Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: Lifeline Link Up Reform and Modernization - WC Docket No. 11-42
Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service – CC Docket No. 96-45
Lifeline and Link Up – WC Docket No. 03-109**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Wednesday April 4, 2011 Cecilia Garcia and Amina Fazlullah of the Benton Foundation¹, had a phone meeting with Garnet Hanley regarding the above caption Lifeline and Link Up proceedings.

The Benton Foundation (Benton) urged the Commission to consider broadband adoption programs when crafting the details surround the Lifeline program's broadband pilots. First Benton suggested that Commission should consider adding any details that would make it easier for broadband adoption programs to reach out to eligible telecommunication carriers (ETCs) that are in their area. Benton suggested that the public notice include an appendix listing all eligible ETCs by state or at least providing information on how to look up ETC's by location. Benton also strongly supports the idea of Commission led workshop walking through the application process and the particulars of the pilot program. Benton also supported an extension of the

¹ www.benton.org, Benton Foundation public filings, including but not limited to these reply comments, represent the institutional view of the Foundation as opposed to the views of any individual officer or director.

application deadline so that ETCs and broadband adoption programs had time to draft applications together.

Sincerely,

/s/

Amina Fazlullah
Policy Counsel
Benton Foundation